

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

1.-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A herpes simplex virus with a genome (i) that comprises an expressible non-herpes simplex virus nucleotide sequence encoding a desired protein cytokine capable of eliciting an immune response against a tumor cell, and (ii) that is altered in the γ 34.5 gene and in the ribonucleotide reductase gene, wherein the mutations result in a lack of function of each gene product.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 7, wherein the altered ribonucleotide reductase gene contains an insertion of a said nucleotide sequence encodes encoding LacZ.

10. (Currently Amended) The herpes simplex virus of claim 7, wherein said herpes simplex virus is G207 expressing the cytokine.

11. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 7, wherein said virus is targeted to a tumor cell of non-nervous tissue origin.

12. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 11, wherein said tumor cell is a neural tumor cell.

13. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 7, wherein said virus is targeted to a specific tumor type with a tumor cell-specific promoter.

14. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 13, wherein said promoter is nestin promoter.

15. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 13, wherein said promoter is basic fibroblast growth factor promoter.

16. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 13, wherein said promoter is epidermal growth factor promoter.

17. (Previously Presented) The herpes simplex virus of claim 7, wherein an essential viral gene product of said virus is under the control of a tumor cell-specific promoter rather than its own viral promoter.

18. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising the herpes simplex virus of claim 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle for said virus.